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11 December 1984

UNCODED

Executive Registry

84- 10294

NOTE FOR: DCI

THROUGH: DDCI

FROM: ExDir

In response to your tasking this morning, here is a suggested set of topics for a briefing of the new HPSCI and/or SSCI Chairmen together with some comments on the content of each. Your reaction to this in terms of issue selection, scope, breadth, and players will help us carry this forward. The topics are listed in the order we think they might be covered.

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1. Overview (McMahon): Set the stage for subsequent presentations by Deputy Directors, [REDACTED]

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2. The Agency's Most Fundamental Role: making sure all information on important issues, from whatever source, is pulled together for high level consideration (Gates). This would include the evolving scope of the production process (from concern 35 years ago with military and political issues to today's interest in a very wide range of key questions including trade issues, terrorism, Third World instability, narcotics, technology transfer, etc.). In addition, we could stress the role of the Agency in assembling the views of the various agencies for senior policymaker consideration (the estimates process), to include a discussion of the integrity of the process. Very important: We need to illustrate the wide variety of customers whose interests we are required to support.

3. The Critical Role of Human Source Collection. (George) We would point out the fact that, in addition to the analytic or estimative role, the framers of the Agency's charter envisioned the need for the U.S. to have a peacetime espionage capability, and that they incorporated the post World War II remnants of the OSS into CIA to do this. We might discuss the clandestine service as an institution, the fact that it is a "people" organization and that it sees itself as a very central part of our profession. [REDACTED]

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Next 2 Page(s) In Document Denied